516 HART SENATE OFFICE BUILDING WASHINGTON, DC 20510 (202) 224–2235



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March 3, 2022

The Honorable Brian Schatz
Chairman
Subcommittee on Transportation, Housing
and Urban Development, and Related Agencies
Committee on Appropriations
U.S. Senate
Washington, D.C. 20510

The Honorable Susan Collins
Ranking Member
Subcommittee on Transportation, Housing
and Urban Development, and Related Agencies
Committee on Appropriations
U.S. Senate
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Chairman Schatz and Ranking Member Collins:

Thank you for your continued leadership on the Senate Transportation, Housing and Urban Development, and Related Agencies Appropriations Subcommittee. As you begin to prepare the Fiscal Year 2022 Senate Transportation, Housing and Urban Development, and Related Agencies Appropriations Bill, I respectfully request that you direct the Department of Transportation to support critical projects in Arizona to expand I-10 and construct I-11 within Arizona.

Arizona and the Intermountain West region continue to see significant population growth, yet the system of interstate highways in the region suffer from a historic underinvestment compared to other regions. Interstate 10, the primary connector between Arizona's two largest cities, Phoenix and Tucson, remains just two-lanes wide in a critical 25-mile stretch. And the proposed Interstate 11 project would connect ports of entry in southern Arizona with west coast ports, and finally connect the rapidly growing cities of Phoenix and Las Vegas with an interstate highway.

To recognize these challenges, I ask that the committee direct USDOT to provide resources and technical assistance to complete the planning process, and fund construction for the I-10 expansion and I-11 projects in Arizona.

Thank you for your important work and leadership. I appreciate your consideration of this request.

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Sincerely,